



## NEWS RELEASE

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Dec. 16, 2013

# NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON STATE FINE ARTS STANDARDS

In an effort to involve the public in the development of learning standards for Nebraska public school students, the Nebraska Department of Education is seeking comments from the public and educators on the new, first-ever state standards for the fine arts.

All comments may be entered through a web survey that will be available between Dec. 16 and Jan. 17. A draft of the Nebraska fine arts standards and a survey are available at <http://www.education.ne.gov/standardssurvey/>.

In addition to the draft fine arts standards that state what students should know and be able to do, the website also includes the following:

- A video explaining the design format of the draft fine arts standards.
- A Power Point that accompanies the explanatory video.
- The actual draft of the fine arts standards.
- A link to the survey for comments from the public.

Any individual or a group may complete the survey. Any person wishing to complete the survey but not able to access the web may receive a hard copy by contacting: Donlynn Rice, Nebraska Department of Education, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska, 69509, or emailing her at [nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov). All comments must be received by Jan. 17, 2014.

In addition to the survey, other opportunities for individuals or groups to comment include:

- Emailing your comments directly to members of the State Board of Education. Email addresses of State Board members are available at: <http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Index.html>
- Emailing comments to [Nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov](mailto:Nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov)
- Submitting written comments to: Fine Arts Standards Input, Debbie DeFrain, Nebraska Department of Education, PO Box 94987, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
- Testifying at a public meeting on Jan. 16, at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m., CST, until close of testimony, at the following sites:
  - ✓ Lincoln – Nebraska Department of Education, 301 Centennial Mall South, Sixth Floor
  - ✓ Omaha – Educational Service Unit #3, 6949 South 110<sup>th</sup> St.
  - ✓ Wakefield – Educational Service Unit #1, 211 10<sup>th</sup> St., Conference Room A
  - ✓ Kearney – Educational Service Unit #10, 76 Plaza Blvd., Rooms E & F, South Wing
  - ✓ Scottsbluff – Educational Service Unit #13, 2601 College Park, HATC, E-189
  - ✓ Ainsworth – Educational Service Unit #17, 1292 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Training Center

The comments will be submitted to the Nebraska State Board of Education and a committee editing the standards. Final approval of the fine arts standards is tentatively scheduled for February.